



The Chitimacha Newsletter

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Greetings,

We've gone through nearly a quarter of the year already and it seems as though we celebrated New Years just a couple of weeks ago. Our early Mardi Gras hasn't helped the sense of time flying by either. I'm just glad to welcome Spring, which is just around the corner.

Since my last letter, much has happened to be excited about. Let's visit these events for a moment:

Revisiting our general meeting of January is a great place to start. We had some inquiry into the feasibility of our "Shorty's" project and vowed to review the plans and the studies that help make our decision. Well, we did this as a Tribal Council and, in fact, reaffirm our decision based on the facts reviewed. We have every reason to believe this is a relatively "low risk" endeavor and will secure our existing business as well as produce new revenues. Simply stated, we're moving forward with our new development.

At this juncture, we're still waiting for National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) approval and expect this to arrive any day now. I traveled to Miami last week to meet with the Chairman of the NIGC and he assured me that they will give this review and approval number-one priority. The approvals can't come soon enough for all of us who have been patiently waiting to get started.

We have several business proposals being formulated right now, and I want to share a bit on those. I won't speak too much at length in sharing this but I feel we should share what we can. First off, we have been working with a group out of Texas who expressed interest in building a hotel in Raintree Village; thus far, we are negotiating the location, size, level of service and price of land lease with this group. When we're able to arrive at an agreement suitable to both of us, we could likely see construction activity in 2005. We'll stay with it and let you know.

Next, we have a profound interest by a Tribal member and a financial backer to build a hotel right in the vicinity of the casino to serve our customers in closer proximity. Thus far, we have not had a firm proposal as to what size, level of service, or what revenues it would bring to the Tribe should we allow a facility in close proximity to our Casino. This venture would be somewhat more complicated than a straight-out lease of land in Raintree Village, as it will ultimately have greater potential than a hotel more remotely located. We'll stay with this one too and let you know when we have more information.

You may remember my sharing an update with you concerning a start-up company called Chitimacha Solutions some months back. Well, I have more on that as well: The Solutions name was changed to Keta (Chitimacha language for partner) so as to include the Tribe without an obvious Tribal name association, for strategic business reasons. Keta is 51% owned by the Tribe and 49 % owned by tribal member Terry Martin. The goal of this company is to secure contracts with the Federal Government and to utilize our 8(A) status to do so. There seems to have been some perceived mystery in our partnership with Terry on this and now is a good time to straighten it out. As for our "ownership", it's much more like an investment, as Terry will be the sole manager of Keta and will make all decisions regarding the business. Our "investment", by the way, has

not been one of money but of “status”. Our status as a tribe has opened the door to an 8(A) status for the company and will ultimately allow us the opportunity to enter the Mentor/Protégé’ program with a lead agency. This in essence has become a new way to enter the business world for the Tribe. There are no governmental, bureaucratic, or political constraints on this business and it will be run with the intent of producing an income for the Tribe and Terry. In my mind, it is diversification of Tribal interests at its best, as this time, we have a tribal member bringing the opportunity. It’s about producing revenues for the Tribe and as always, limiting the cash investment and liability exposure. There are continued opportunities for Tribal businesses that can become more independent of government and I believe this company will serve to refine and build on this model which is similar to Indian Nations Insurance Company. We will continue to be open to this type of partnership opportunity and should anyone know of any potential partners, feel free to approach the Tribal Council and share your ideas. Let’s all stay together, learn and grow on this path of progress.

Speaking of diversification, the same premier enterprise that I mentioned earlier, will be closing the doors in the near future. Indian Nations Insurance Company, our very own enterprise, will discontinue writing coverage effective June 30, 2005. The news came to us this week as Howard Utsey (our sole manager) of Indian Nations, visited and gave us the news. It should take a couple of years to actually run-out the claims and begin the waiting period for “all claims activity” to cease, but in the space of the next four years it will all be said and done and it will have produced millions for our people. Not a bad run for being in the insurance business for seven years. God bless Howard and his wife Paula for their efforts and their trust in the Tribe resulting in a partnership with no cash investment and receiving 50% of the profits. It just seems that maybe this Indian Nations Insurance was really the “first” to break into the business diversification of the Tribe after all. Well, we have profits in the bank and as you will see, as in the general meeting of January, we will continue to track these profits and investments and use them to the best advantage of the Tribe. I’ll keep you posted on the progress of closing the doors on this “second most profitable” enterprise of the Tribe.

It’s been quite fulfilling to reflect on, and share some of the business progress of the Tribe and I hope you have enjoyed learning of these things as well. I sincerely believe the business interest of the Tribe is well intact and that we will continue to grow and prosper in the years to come. We have been setting and will continue to set the stage for our children and their children. I urge everyone to take an active interest in our future and be a part of this amazing story of growth and prosperity. We have survived every adversity for centuries and only recently have we begun to see more than survival, we are seeing “prosperity”. I must tell you, this hasn’t happened by accident, but by everyone working together for a common cause. Isn’t it gratifying to see that this same bond has carried us through the past and will into the future.

Until Next Time, Huya Nito

TRIBAL COURT NEWS**CURRENT COURT STATISTICS:****JANUARY & FEBRUARY:****CASES: (40)**

- 17 Civil Actions** (13 Garnishments/2 Civil Complaints/2 Petition for Damages)
- 01 Juvenile** (1 Juvenile Petition)
- 19 Domestic** (16 Petition for Disbursement of Funds/2 Petition for Change in Custody/1 Petition for Guardianship)
- 03 Criminal** (3 Criminal Complaints)

MORTGAGES AND LIENS: (10)

(Assignment/Liens)

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS: (04)

(1 Property Use Agreement/2 Acknowledgment of Paternity/1 Commercial Lease)

**TOTAL ACTIONS PROCESSED IN
JANUARY & FEBRUARY, 2005
(54)**

CASES PENDING AS OF MARCH 1, 2005

TRIBAL COURT: (25)

- 07 CIVIL**
- 10 DOMESTIC RELATIONS**
- 06 CRIMINAL**
- 01 TRAFFIC**
- 00 CRIMINAL TRAFFIC**
- 00 JUVENILE**
- 00 APPEAL**
- 01 PROBATE**

COURT SESSIONS:**TRIBAL COURT: JANUARY**One regular session was conducted on **January 11,****(02) DOMESTIC****(03) JUVENILE****(04) CRIMINAL****TRIBAL COURT: FEBRUARY**

The first regular session was conducted on **February 1, 2005**, at which time **17** matters were scheduled to be heard. Three matters were reset for later dates.

(10) DOMESTIC**(01) JUVENILE****(05) CRIMINAL****(01) CIVIL**

The second regular session was conducted on **February 15, 2005**, at which time **7** matters were scheduled to be heard. One matter was reset for a later date.

(05) DOMESTIC**(02) CIVIL**

One special session was conducted on **February 16, 2005**, at which time **1** matter was heard.

(01) DOMESTIC

One special session was conducted on **February 22, 2005**, at which time **2** matters were heard.

(02) JUVENILE

As always, if you would like any further information regarding the Tribal Courts, please feel free to contact the Court at (337) 923-7806; or come by anytime. We are located at 343 Navarro St., Chitimacha Reservation; and our regular office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday.

Resolutions for the Month of February

- #09/05** Authorizes tribal officials, Chairman Alton LeBlanc, Vice Chairman Lonnie Martin, Secretary-Treasurer Toby Darden, and staff member, Finance Director Patty Perry, to initiate financial transactions, obtain information, or give investment instruction to the Office of Trust Funds Management (OST), and that the OST recognize any of the two(2) referenced tribal officials and/or staff member as authorized to act for the Tribe and that any requests submitted by any two of the above tribal officials/staff member be deemed as valid.
- #10/05** Authorizes Toby Darden to submit a Fiscal Year 2005 Historic Preservation Fund Grants to Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Organizations grant application for the purposes of providing funding for a cultural resources survey on the Tribe's land, and to sign any and all documents pertaining to this grant.
- #11/05** Certifies that the required citizen participation actions have been met as described in the application, and authorizes Toby Darden to submit an application for the 2005 Title VII – Formula Grants to Local Education Agencies, Indian Education Programs from the Department of Education and to negotiate and sign any and all documents pertaining to this application and/or grant.
- #12/05** Authorizes the Chairman to execute an Agreement with the State of Louisiana in order to enable the acquisition of a State license to operate the Chitimacha Early Learning Center (Yaamahana) to qualify and participate in any available State funding and programs that may be available in the future.

FEBRUARY 2005



For the month of February 2005 traffic citations were issued for speeding, passing in a no passing zone, driving with a suspended drivers license, and operating a vehicle with no tail lights and a burnt head light.



The following arrests were logged for February 2005—one male and one female arrested for theft, one male juvenile arrested for theft, one male arrested on two outstanding warrants from 16th Judicial Court for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the drug court treatment program on the charges of criminal trespass, theft over \$500.00, simple burglary and contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, one male subject arrested for unlawful possession of an intoxicating beverage by a person under 21 years of age, one male arrested for disturbing the peace intoxicated and remaining where forbidden, and one male subject arrested for criminal trespass.

Welcome new Communications Officer, Kered Parro—Kered began her employment with the police department on January 28, 2005 and is doing an outstanding job with her dispatching duties. We welcome Kered to the Chitimacha Police Department Team.

Make Big \$\$ working from your home! No commuting. No time clock.

Be your own boss!

Work-at-Home Scams: They Just Don't Pay.

Information from The US Postal Inspection Service

You've seen the ads in newspapers, on flyers stapled to telephone poles, and on the Internet. They sound great. In fact, working at home has become more attractive than ever as stay-at-home moms, college students, and retirees look for new ways to earn extra money. But be wary of these offers, warn U.S. Postal Inspectors. There are some genuine job opportunities, but too many don't deliver on their promises.

U.S. Postal Inspectors warn that, before you accept a work-at-home job, proceed with caution. Most work-at-home jobs don't guarantee regular, salaried employment. Many neglect to mention that you have to work many hours without pay. Others require that you spend your own money for products or instructions before finding out how the offer works. And the "work" may entail getting others to sign up for the same job—which continues the fraud.



Postal Inspectors report the most common work-at-home scam is envelope stuffing. The ads promise you money in return for stuffing.





The newest scam is re-shipping fraud. Work-at-home shippers are promised substantial amounts of money—all they have to do is receive, repackage, and then mail merchandise to a foreign address. What the shipper doesn't know is that the merchandise was paid for with stolen credit cards. In effect, the work-at-home shipper becomes part of a fencing operation by receiving and mailing stolen goods. Reports to date indicate the scam has cost victims thousands of dollars, but as long as the ads appear, people unaware of the fraud continue to respond.



Other work-at-home jobs may involve product assembly, craft work, medical billing, and multi-level marketing. Some ask victims to front money for products or more detailed instructions.

Postal Inspectors encourage consumers to closely examine and check out all jobs before responding. Legitimate companies provide information in writing. They offer these protection tips:

Don't give out personal information to a person or company you don't know. Be suspicious of any offer that doesn't pay a regular salary or involves working for an overseas company. Check out the company with the Federal Trade Commission (www.ftc.gov), the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org), State Attorney General, or your local consumer protection agency.

There's no easy road to wealth. Operating a home-based business is just like any other—they require hard work and good products or services, and it takes time to make a profit. If the offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.



RECREATION NEWS

Basketball has come and gone already! We had 54 participants between the ages of 9 and 14. Games were played in the month of January with a total of 7 teams. Our two 9-10 year old girls teams were coached by Beth Rodriguez and Geoffrey Coleman. They played games against each other as well as games against 2 Franklin teams. Players consisted of: **Kati Martin, Erica Compton, Allison Junca, Ashley Pierce, Jasi Anderson, Bailey Coleman, Meagan Williams, Becca Caro, Kaitlyn Landry, Kaylee Cormier, Morgan Baudoin, Macie Guillotte, Lexi Coleman, Evelyn Pontiff and Victoria Vilcan.** Three teams were made from the 7-8 year old boys and those teams were coached by: Jeff Jordan, Bryan Aucoin, and Steve Cole. Players in the 7-8 Boys Division consisted of: **Logan Jordan, Caleb Higgins, Jose Sanchez, Cameron Stovall, Alex Aucoin, Brennan Broussard, Bryce Hebert, Beau LeBlanc, Brant Aucoin, Bryce Ronsonet, John Galatas, Logan Hebert, Evan Thibodeaux, Trent Darden, Colby Darden, Tony Caro, Taylor Hebert, Russell Aucoin, Trae Kitchens, and Reid Simoneaux.** The 9-10 year old boys' team was coached by Natalie Jordan and they played on Mondays and Wednesdays against 5 Franklin teams. Players for the 9-10 boys are as follows: **Trevor Pierce,**



Andrew Jordan, Gavin Brown, Jovan Anderson, David Charpentier, Bret Senette, Garrett Burns, and Kole Fluke. Our Jr. High Girls' team was coached by Mrs. Jeri and Coach Billy. Players are as follows: **Devynn DePue, Maggie Darden, Ariel Marsh, Sherry Higgins, Elizabeth Butaud, Karli Mensman, Heather Simoneaux, and Emilee Darden.** The benefit of having coaches allowed our kids to play at a higher level of competition. Thanks to our dedicated coaches and referees and also to our concession workers, Beth and Andrew Rodriguez. Pictured below are a few of our teams. The **Chitimacha Challenge** is going strong

with 47 participants. Congratulations and keep up your workouts.

Track and Field started at the beginning of March with conditioning practice four days a week. The fifth through eighth graders will start a track and field unit in P.E. on March 7th, lasting for two weeks. Some of the skills that will be covered are as follows: Long jumping, triple jumping, hurdles, high jump, discus, shot put and relays. Our first meet was held in Berwick on Tuesday, March 22, with 2 other meets in Franklin to follow on April 5th and 12th.

Aerobics classes are currently being held on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:00 AM. Personal training is scheduled throughout the day. Come in and talk about your personal goals and we'll help you achieve them.

Baseball registration is currently being held. We've sent out surveys and received a good response. We have a good idea of ages interested in playing. We are now waiting on Franklin to define the age groups based on their registration. Once again this year we'll play a combined league with Baldwin and Franklin, using Chitimacha as one of the game sites. Opening day is

April 16, at Caffery Park in Franklin. Call us if you have any interest at 923-4975. Thank you for your response for coaching. Your time with the kids is greatly appreciated!



Pool News! With spring approaching, many people have asked about the pool opening. If all goes well, the pool should be opened at the end of April. Last year's pool closure ended with some small minor problems that need to be corrected before we can open.

If you are 16 or older and interested in life-guarding, please give us a call. We will need to schedule a life-guard course.

The CHITIMACHA LOUISIANA OPEN tickets are in. If you are interested in attending the open, come by Recreation and obtain some passes.

Chitimacha Tribal School News for February:

1st Grade: Ms. Phyllis is so pleased with our reading. She says we are reading better every day. We really like Accelerated Reading and the stories in our textbooks. Ms. Phyllis says she really can tell that we read at home a lot. She says that our reading is getting fluent which means smooth. We had a great time on the 100th Day of School. It was fun singing the 100th day song, reading books about 100, spelling 100 words, writing 100 wishes, counting 100 pennies, 100 nickels, and 100 dimes. We did many other things in our classroom, and our school also did some 100th day things together. That 100th day cake was delicious. We just completed another Native American study of the sun and read some great legends. We learn so much and do some fun things during these lessons. Trent Darden is our Star of the Week. His favorite thing about school is P.E. He is proud of himself for doing his best in school. Something he likes about himself is that he follows the rules. When he grows up, Trent wants to play professional basketball. Congratulations, Trent!

5th Grade: Kerri Payton said that everyone was geared up for Mardi Gras. Our three-day-break was nice after all of the hard work it took to prepare our floats for the parade. The parade was @ 1:00 Saturday. On the 100th day of school, we finally reached one whole on our number line. Calendar Math has taught us how to write decimals, fractions, and percents. Now we'll be writing mixed numbers and improper fractions. We've not only been multiplying whole numbers, but now we're multiplying decimals too. We're finding out how careful you have to be when putting decimals into your products. You have to pay really close attention to what you're doing! In Science we're studying about matter. We each had to choose an element and make a model of it using a paper plate and other items. Now we're studying the states of matter and their properties. Congratulations to Nick Boudreaux for being 5th grade Star of the Week!

6th Grade, from Mary Broussard: Congratulations to Keith Leedom for being selected 6th grade Star of the Week. Mardi Gras preparations and the parade went very well. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make Mardi Gras a great success. Spring is around the corner. Students in PE are working on baseball and softball skills. In sixth through eighth grade Social Studies we are working on various projects, such as, early inventions, camel transportation along the Silk Road, and power points projects.

Character Counts Program: 8th grade students are working once a week with the kindergarteners in a big brother/sister to little brother/sister relationship. Their activities are varied, such as reading books, making Christmas ornaments, Paint Shop computer activities, and lessons about animals and the zoo. Both grades look forward to their times together.

This week the Kindergarteners studied the letter V and made Valentines with red ribbons and bows. They were able to sign them with their names too! Ms. Quincie says we are now participating in the Accelerated Reading Program with the rest of the school. Sage Guillory is the Star of the Week for Kindergarten. Congratulations, Sage!

Ms. Debbie says second graders have been really busy reading. They are working on reaching their goals in AR and also for the Pizza Hut-Book It program. Whenever they have free time, second graders are reading. For the next two weeks in Math they will be learning about geometry and fractions. They will be identifying 3-dimensional figures. They will also be working with congruent and symmetrical figures. In Social Studies they will be studying the presidents. They will focus on three presidents: George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and George W. Bush. They will make patriotic profiles. Each student will write a report about "If I become President..." At the end of the unit they will be making cherry tarts to celebrate their hard work. They just had their Mardi Gras parade. Our float was "Hawaii". We had hula girls and Hawaiian boys on the float. Our float came out in second place! Our Star of the Week student is Kati Martin. Congratulations Kati!

From Robert Landry: 7th Grade has been progressing well in English and Reading. The class is working on definition essays this week and will be studying poetry next. The Star of the Week for 7th Grade is Matthan Stouff. Congratulations to Matthan for his second Star of the Week for this year.

These days the library computer lab is buzzing with research reports being done. Students in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades are expected to complete a report with a cover page, a typed paper of two or three pages, at least two quotes with footnotes, and three to five bibliographies. The seventh and eighth grades are working to research a president and complete a report based on the librarian's guidelines. The sixth grade students chose a topic of interest to them with which to do research and write their report.

Ms. Beth Rodriguez's third grade class has been learning research skills in order to gather information about jazz musicians. They used encyclopedias and the Internet to conduct their research. Afterwards, they used the facts they found to write a paragraph about the jazz artists and read their paragraphs to the class. Benny Goodman, Ella Fitzgerald, and Count Basie were among a few of the many artists that the students learned about. Students listened to some jazz music and were able to appreciate its unique sound. In Math class, the topic has been, Money! Money! Money! The third graders have learned to count money, add and subtract money, and have learned to make change. They will be able to apply these skills soon when Ms. Beth sets up the class "grocery store" where they will be able to buy, sell, and make change using a real cash register! Students have been working hard to learn their multiplication facts and other skills in preparation for the upcoming IOWA test in March. The third grade Star-of-the-Week is Kaitlyn Landry. Congratulations Kaitlyn!

From Monique Darden's Middle School Science: 8th graders are studying the atmosphere, global wind patterns, and weather predictions for Science. In Math, we are studying angles and lines in geometry. 7th graders are learning about genetics and heredity in Science. In Math, we are converting measurements in the customary and metric systems. 6th graders are investigating simple machines, such as levers, pulleys, inclined planes, and wheel and axles. For Math, we are classifying various polygons and studying symmetry. Science fair projects will be assigned soon. Good luck everyone! Star of the Week for the 8th grade is Devynn DePue. Congratulations, Devynn!

LEAP and IOWA testing was conducted during the week of March 14-18. Thank you to all the students for all your hard work, and to all the parents for their support.

CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL

2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR

Third Nine Weeks Renaissance Program

Award Winners:

Principal's List :

Gabriella Darden
Erica Compton
Jasi Anderson
Kaylee Cormier
Karli Mensman
Kaitlan Louviere
Ciera Johnson

Honor Roll:

Trae' Kitchens
Victoria Vilcan
Rhett LeBlanc
Meagan Williams
Grant Darden
Emilee Darden
Aaron LeBlanc
Ariel Marsh
Matthan Stouff
Magdeline Darden
Michael Mora
Lindsey Martin

Improvement Award:

Hannah Butaud
Chase Cormier
Robert Compton
Bishop Boutte
Barry Moneaux
Toni Vilcan
Erica Compton
Trae' Kitchens
Meagan Williams
Karli Mensman

Good Conduct:

Hannah Butaud
Robert Compton
Raine Darden
Kymberlin Landry
Sage Guillory
Caleb Darden
McKaila Darden
Trent Darden
Drake Hewitt
Caylin Moneaux
Toni Vilcan
Colby Darden
Joshua Darden
Sarah Guillory
Kati Martin
Tommie Poirrier
Reid Simoneaux
Erica Compton
Gabriella Darden
Trae' Kitchens
Victoria Vilcan
Jasi Anderson
Kaylee Cormier
Rhett LeBlanc
Nata Sedatol
Meagan Williams
Nicholas Boudreaux
Grant Darden
Taylor Darden
Kole Fluke
Sherry Higgins
Karli Mensman
Elizabeth Butaud
Alfred Crochet
Keith Leedom

Good Conduct Continued:

Kaitlan Louviere
Elizabeth Poirrier
Heather Simoneaux
Aaron LeBlanc
Magdeline Darden
Devynn DePue
Ciera Johnson
Michael Mora

Perfect Attendance:

Robert Compton
Sage Guillory
Peyton Trahan
McKaila Darden
Russel Aucoin
Sarah Guillory
Gavin Brown
Gabriella Darden
Kaylee Cormier
Grant Darden
Sherry Higgins
Jake Gaddy
Kaitlan Louviere
Heather Simoneaux
Michael Mora

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE STUDENTS
AND THEIR PARENTS ON A JOB WELL DONE!!!!**



CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
MARCH, 2005



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	March 1, 2005	March 2, 2005	March 3, 2005	March 4, 2005
	Breakfast Biscuits, Sausage, Juice, Milk Lunch Lasagna, Corn, Salad, Garlic Bread, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Ham/Cheese Ome- let, Toast Juice, Milk Lunch Pig-n-Blanket, Pork- n-Beans, Mac/Cheese, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Milk Lunch Smothered Meat- balls, Rice/Gravy, Salad, Roll, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk Lunch Popcorn Shrimp, Cheese Sticks, Tots, Salad, Roll, Fruit, Milk
March 7, 2005	March 8, 2005	March 9, 2005	March 10, 2005	March 11, 2005
Breakfast Biscuits, Sausage, Juice, Milk Lunch White Beans/Sausage, Rice, Beets, Baby Carrots, Corn-	Breakfast Donuts, Ham Juice, Milk Lunch Chicken Tenders, Creamed Potatoes, Peas, Roll, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Oatmeal, Cinnamon Toast, Juice, Milk Lunch Pork Roast w/ gravy, Rice, Green Beans, Fruit, Salad, Roll, Milk	Breakfast Breakfast Pizza, Grits, Juice, Milk Lunch Beef/Cheese Na- chos, Corn, Salad, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Scrambled Eggs, Biscuits, Juice, Milk Lunch Tuna fish or Peanut Butter Sandwiches, Fries, Salad, Fruit, Cookie, Milk
March 14, 2005	March 15, 2005	March 16, 2005	March 17, 2005	March 18, 2005
Breakfast Biscuits, Sausage, Bananas, Juice, Milk Lunch Chicken Nuggets, Mac/Cheese, Cu- cumber Cup, Fruit,	Breakfast Ham/Cheese Ome- let, Toast Juice, Milk Lunch Corndogs, Fries, Broccoli/Cheese, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Biscuits, Ham, Or- anges, Juice, Milk Lunch Grilled Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad Fruit, Roll, Milk	Breakfast Breakfast Pizza, Grits, Juice, Milk Lunch Sloppy Joes, Tots, Salad, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Oatmeal, Toast, Juice, Milk Lunch Shrimp Stew, Rice, Cheese Sticks, Peas, Potato Salad, Roll, Fruit, Milk
March 21, 2005	March 22, 2005	March 23, 2005	Par- ent/Student Conferences No School	Good Friday
Breakfast Pancakes, Sausage Links, Juice, Milk Lunch Red Beans/Sausage, Rice, Beets, Broc- coli/Cheese, Salad, Cornbread, Fruit,	Breakfast Biscuits, Sausage Pattie Milk, Juice Lunch Baked Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Peas, Roll, Fruit, Milk	Breakfast Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Biscuits, Juice, Milk Lunch Pizza, Corn, Salad, Fruit, Milk		
Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break

MARCH CALENDAR

March 11th - End of Third Nine-Week Period.

March 14th-18th Leap/Iowa Testing

March 17th - St. Patrick's Day

March 18th - Report Cards Sent Home

March 25th Parent/Student Conferences



News from Chitimacha Fire Protection

Rick Cook, Fire Chief

January & February Activities

Training: We recently had a CPR refresher at the Fire Department. Rick Cook, Kenneth Perry, Craig Burgess, Earl Tyler, & Timothy Zook participated in that refresher. Earl Tyler attended a Firefighter Training in Milton. As always, we continue our monthly training in drill. For January, we conducted a Live Burn and Pump familiarization training. For February, we flowed the aerial waterway with our E-1 pumper 605.

Other Departmental Activities: We would like to Welcome Clarence Clark into our Volunteer Division. Clarence is going to be joining Albert Guillory, Erin Vilcan, Curt Cormier, & Timothy Zook. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the volunteer division here at the fire department, feel free to contact us or just come by and pick up an application.

Response Area Fire Prevention Activities: Monthly fire drills, fire extinguisher inspections, pre-planning, and other inspections are conducted at the educational facilities and Tribal offices. Deborah Guardia, our fire prevention official, is seeking to put together a Child Seat Safety Program presented by State Farm. Deborah is looking forward to presenting Poison Prevention this month.

Notices: The Fire Department has smoke detectors available. If you need a detector or would like to have your present detector checked, call the department and someone will be happy to assist you. We can also inspect your fire extinguisher.?

Emergency Responses: Total Calls for the month of January @ 31 and February @ 29.

“Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens.”

-Jimmy Hendrix

VACANCY

Scholarship Committee

The Chitimacha Tribal Council is seeking to appoint a Member to the Scholarship Committee. A stipend will be provided.

Qualifications: All Scholarship Committee Members must be at least 18 years of age at the time of their appointment and must have a high school diploma or the equivalent.

Responsibilities: Establish eligibility criteria for scholarship recipients; oversee the implementation of the program; and compliance of the participants. Duties include review of all applications each quarter or semester; on-going development of the guidelines to ensure fair and equitable practice; and serving in an advisory capacity to the Chitimacha Tribal Council.

Please send letter of interest by 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 2005 to:

Chitimacha Tribal Council
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P. O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS:

By Ardith Soprano, Continuing Education Director

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Once a student is awarded a scholarship through this program, they must provide copies of certain documents in order to justify their funding. Should they fail to provide these documents, then their continued funding is jeopardized due to failing to comply with the guidelines. Each student is issued a guideline booklet which outlines the reporting requirements and each time the student receives an award check, he/she is notified of the reporting requirements and the set deadlines for the submission of each. It is vital that our students become familiar with the guidelines, since their funding can be cut should they fail to provide the reports in a timely manner. I urge each student and each parent of each student to make sure that they comply with the Student Aid Program guidelines.

ALL COMMUNITY PAYBACK HOURS ARE NOW DUE BY JULY 15, 2005! PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS NEW DATE!

ENROLLMENT NEWS

By Ardith Soprano, Enrollment Director

CHANGE OF INFORMATION: Any time there is a change in a person's name, address, phone number, marital status or in the case of death, the enrollment records must be updated. This can be a monumental task when people cooperate by sending in the pertinent information. But when people do not notify this office of changes, the task is impossible. Each time that a change goes undocumented and our enrollment records are not updated to reflect the changes, the accuracy of our records is again in question. It is our goal to keep reminding you that we need to keep your records up-to-date and that we cannot do so without your cooperation. This is a joint effort! So...If you know someone who has had:

A NAME CHANGE, either due to marriage, divorce or legal name change, please notify this office and provide copies of marriage license, divorce papers, court papers and Social Security Cards under the new legal name. Our Enrollment records cannot be up-dated until the required documents have been received and entered into your records. So, if you change you name, you must change it with us also.

A NEW BORN: If you or someone in your family has had a new born, please notify this office so that we can initiate the enrollment process for the child. Many of you may not be aware, but some of our adults having children are failing to enroll their children into the Tribe. We have Chitimacha children out there who are not yet enrolled and who are not eligible to receive any benefits as a Chitimacha including the Per Capita. This is a situation whereby we have no control. It is up to the parents, grandparents and other family members to see that the children are enrolled. I find it hard to believe that a parent is receiving their per capita each year but is depriving their child of his/her birth right.

In order for a child to be enrolled, an application must be completed by an adult Tribal Member sponsor of the child. This could be the parent, grandparent or other adult enrolled Tribal Member. Once the application has been filed, a certified copy of the birth certificate and a copy of the Social Security Card are required. Also, if the child is claiming eligibility through the father, then DNA tests are required. Once all of the required documents have been received, the child is presented to the Tribal Council for official approval of their Tribal Enrollment.

A DEATH IN THE FAMILY, when a Tribal Member passes away, we have to have a copy of the death certificate in order to close out that Tribal Member's records. It is easy for us to forget to send in this document since we are grieving for our loved ones. We understand this and tend to give you some time to heal from your loss. But, we do have to have a copy of the certificate so we hope that you understand that there will come a time when we will call to get a copy. It is not our intention to bring pain to you during your time of trouble, and we hope that you will forgive us if we do happen to bring that pain back to you by our requesting the needed documents.

A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER: It is almost impossible to keep our addresses and phone numbers up-to-date. Each time that you move or change your contact information, we must enter this information into our records. However, some of you do not let us know of these changes. This costs us a lot of money in wasted postage when we send things out to addresses that are no longer good addresses for you. So, please notify this office at (866) 936-2654 in order to initiate a change for you and any other Tribal Members residing with you (children, elderly parents or any other Tribal Member).

UNTIL next month, I wish you well and hope to be hearing from each of you if you have to change your enrollment information.

NEWS FROM YAAMAHANA

By
Kathleen Flanagan

On Wednesday, February 23, 2005, Chairman Al LeBlanc, School Board President Jack Darden, Division Administrator Peggy Gaddy, and Yaamahana Director, Kathleen Flanagan, traveled to Baton Rouge for the signing of a cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Department of Social Services. The purpose of the cooperative agreement is to establish and maintain an effective cooperative relationship between the Chitimacha Tribe and the Department of Social Services in order to share responsibilities for the voluntary licensing of child day care facilities on tribal lands; to share responsibility for inspecting such voluntarily-licensed child day care facilities; and to share client information concerning participants in the Child Care Assistance Program.

Lisa Blackmon-Hansard, a Region VI Tribal Program Specialist with the Administration for Children and Families, and Judy Baggett, a Tribal Child Welfare Program Specialist, based in Dallas, Texas also came to Baton Rouge for the signing. The Louisiana Department of Social Services was also well represented with top officials.



Yaamahana will be a "Class A" licensed child care center. The state of Louisiana will periodically monitor the child care center to insure compliance with minimum standards for the safety and well-being of the children. As a "Class A" licensed child care center, Yaamahana will be eligible for state grants and other assistance programs that will enhance the facility's operations.

Front row, left to right – Peggy Gaddy, Chitimacha Division Director, Kathleen Flanagan, Yaamahana Director, Angie Rollins, "Class A" Licensing Program Manager, Marketa Garner Gautreau, Assistant Secretary, Office of Community Services, Ann Williamson, Secretary, Department of Social Services, Lisa Blackmon Hansard, Region VI Tribal Program Specialist, Judy Baggett, Tribal Child Welfare Program Specialist, Tony Carouso, Attorney, Department of Social Services. Back row, left to right – Jack Darden, President, Chitimacha School Board, Thalia Stevenson, Director, Bureau of Licensing, Chairman Al LeBlanc, Adren Wilson, Assistant Secretary, Office of Family Support.)

THE BEST OF THE BEST!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO

ALL THE WINNERS!!!!



Pictured (l to r): Toby Darden (Chief Administrative Officer), Denise Hodge (Employee of the Quarter Winner), Mack Petry (Employee of the Quarter Winner) and Natalie Rodriguez (Employee of the Quarter Winner).

Denise Hodge, Mack Petry and Natalie Rodriguez were announced as the winners for the “Employee of the Quarter” for the October - December 2004 Quarter. The announcement was made January 25, 2005, after the Employee of the Quarter Luncheon.

Denise has been employed with the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana since November 30, 1998. She works at the Chitimacha Tribal School as a Media Specialist. She completes operation and maintenance of the library and computer lab. She provides Grades K-8 instruction of information resources and technology. She is responsible for ordering, cataloging and circulating all library materials as well as supervision of “After Hours” computer lab for community members. In addition to assisting with Accelerated Reading Program, is responsible for library budget, applying for grant funding to ensure operation and fundraising for the library as well as any other duties as needed or directed. Denise resides in Charenton. Denise enjoys reading, writing, cooking and going to the movies. She has published one children’s book and has several published poems. Recently she was published in the International Who’s Who in Poetry for 2004. Loves to perform in Mardi Gras parades. Her past appearances include Charlie Chaplin, Elvis Presley and Mother Goose.

Mack has been employed with the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana since September 3, 1994. He works as an Assistant Investigator for the Chitimacha Gaming Commission. He conducts initial background investigations on Cypress Bayou Casino applicants, vendors, and on a bi-yearly basis on existing employees; collect data, conduct personal interviews, analyzes information gathered, establish facts, draw valid conclusions and write reports of findings. Obtain credit ratings from the credit services and assist members in examining their persona credit report. He attends and provides testimony at monthly license suitability Gaming Commission Hearings. He briefs applicants, issue and review initial non-gaming license applicants for licensing. Issue/retrieve gaming license from licensees in accordance with the State/Tribal Compact and Chitimacha Gaming Commission Policies. He performs liaison duties with Louisiana State Police personnel assigned to the CBC Field Office and conduct other duties as assigned. He is married to Victoria Petry and they have six children; Bretlin, Mack Jr., Byran, Malcolm, Brandon and Laura. They reside in Abbeville. Mack is a Certified Martial Arts Instructor. He received his First Degree Black Belt in Korean Hapkido Karate, Third Degree Black Belt in Lotus Self Defense. He has been teaching Karate and Self Defense for more than 30 years. He has taught all over the world – Germany, Korea, Thailand, Philippines, and Hawaii. He currently teaches Lotus Self Defense four days a week in Abbeville and Lafayette. He also loves basketball and football.

Natalie has been employed with the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana since July 31, 2000. She works as a Lead Child Care Provider for the Yaamahana Early Learning Center. She works with three year olds. She is responsible for the care and education of assigned group of children. She plans and implements developmentally appropriate curriculum and assesses needs of individual children for incorporation into curriculum planning. Her Fiancée' is Blane Gianfala and they have one son; Bailey. They reside in Baldwin. She enjoys spending time with her son and family. She also enjoys cooking and shopping.



*****Denise Hodge*****



Pictured (l to r): Phyllis Darden (Sister), Denise Hodge (EOQ Winner)
Erica Darden (Nephew's Wife) & Tanya Rosamond (Principal)



Pictured (l to r): Denise Hodge (EOQ
Winner) & Tanya Rosamond (School Principal)

*****Mack Petry*****



Pictured l to r: Bridgett Marcell, Gerald McCloskey, Mack Petry (EOQ Winner) and Tricia Mora



Mack Petry (EOQ Winner) & Gerald McCloskey (Commission Investigator)

Natalie Rodriguez



Pictured l to r: Stephanie Clement (Sister), Natalie Rodriguez (EOQ Winner) and Elaine Rodriguez (Mom)



Pictured l to r: Yvette Darden, Kathleen Flanagan (Child Care Director), Stephanie Baudoin, Natalie Rodriguez (EOQ Winner), Fran Bonin, Verda "Dookie" Hebert, and Ruth Bourque

*****Paaxta Duskunkatsi Pinun***
(Most Gold Stars)**



**Denise received a Total of thirteen (13) Gold Stars,
this automatically nominated her for
“The Employee of the Quarter”.**

CHITIMACHA

OUTREACH and FELLOWSHIP

No matter if you are Catholic, Baptist, or Protestant, and Non-Denominational, if you are a believer in the LORD JESES, please come and worship HIM and pray with us for our families, communities, and our nation. If you are not a believer, but have a need, please come and we will pray for you.

The word of the LORD came again to me, saying: "Son of man, when a land sins against me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out my hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it and cut off man and beast from it."

Ezekiel 14:12-13

If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and Pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear From Heaven, and I will forgive their sins and heal their land.

II Chronicles 7:14

PRAY FOR:

SICKNESS AND DISEASE OF ALL KINDS

HEART PROBLEMS
DIABETES
CANCER
DRUGS
ALCOHOLISM
BONDAGE
PRIDE
INFIRM SPIRIT
FEAR
DEATH

HEALING
DELIVERANCE
PROSPERITY
WISDOM
PEACE/JOY
KNOWLEDGE
FAITHFULNESS
SALVATION
LOVE
LIFE

Please join us to worship GOD and pray for our families, communities, and our nation.

GOD BLESS YOU!

WHEN: Thursday, March 24, 2005

TIME: 7pm

WHERE: Chitimacha Recreation Center. Loop Road

TWO BOARD VACANCIES

Election Board

The Chitimacha Tribal Council is seeking to appoint two Members to the Election Board to fill a term, which will expire on April 10, 2009, and to fill an unexpired term, which will expire on March 10, 2008. A stipend will be provided.

Scope: The Election Board Members perform such duties as prescribed by the Election Ordinance and any additional rules and regulations prescribed by the Tribal Council.

Qualifications: All Election Board Members must be an enrolled member of the Tribe and be at least 18 years of age at the time of their appointment to the board. Election Board Members are not allowed to be a member of the Tribal Council, School Board or any other elected Tribal office.

Responsibilities: Maintain all records of the Election Board. Designate dates for voter registration, filing for candidates and conduct of elections. Post notice of election, register votes, maintain and update voter registration records, certify candidates. Prepare and secure ballots, set up and manage polling place and secure ballot box and/or voting machine, verify eligible voters, count votes, declare winners and/or runoff candidates. Report results to the public, Tribal Council, and Bureau of Indian Affairs. Set up and manage special elections and referendums.

ALL CANDIDATES MAY BE CHOSEN FOR A SUBSTITUTE.

Please send letter of interest by 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 2005 to:

Chitimacha Tribal Council
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P. O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

VACANCY

Housing Authority

The Chitimacha Tribal Council is seeking to appoint a Member to the Housing Authority to fill a term that will expire in May of 2009. A stipend will be provided.

Scope: The Housing Authority performs such duties as prescribed by the Chitimacha Housing Ordinance and any additional rules and regulations prescribed by the Tribal Council.

Qualifications: All Housing Authority Members must be at least 18 years of age at the time of their appointment.

Responsibilities: Members of the Housing Authority are charged with the purposes of 1) Remediating unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions that are injurious to the public's health, safety and morals; 2) Alleviating the acute shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwellings for persons of low income; and 3) Providing employment opportunities through the construction, reconstruction, improvement, extension, alteration or repair and operation of low income dwellings.

Please send letter of interest by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 4, 2005 to:

Chitimacha Tribal Council
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P. O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

LET'S MEET THE CANDIDATES

INVITING

CHITIMACHA ELECTION CANDIDATES

AND

CHITIMACHA VOTERS

TO PARTICIPATE IN A

CHITIMACHA VOTER FORUM

**Sunday, May 15, 2005 @ 2:00PM
CHITIMACHA SCHOOL GYM**

This is an opportunity for voting members of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana to meet the candidates and learn about the vision each has for our tribe.

Each candidate for the June 11, 2005 election is invited to participate in the forum. This is a great opportunity for candidates to introduce themselves, their vision, and to share with the Chitimacha voters their position on issues important to tribal members. In addition, the forum will include a timed question and answer session.

Take this opportunity to attend and participate! As a voter, if you're interested in participating in the planning of the forum or submitting questions for the candidates, send an email message to:

wemanki05@netscape.net

Or mail to:

Tammy Oser, 138 Schooner Place, Abita Springs, LA. 70420

LEGAL BRIEFS with CHRISTOPHER MORA

THIS MONTH: INDIAN LAW RESOURCES. Everywhere I go, Chitimacha tribal members ask one common question: where can I go to get good resources to learn more about Indian law? If you notice, as each month's article comes out, I try to add one paragraph that gives you the specific case(s) or statute(s) where you can go for yourself, if you'd like, and see the source of the laws that affect us. Also, at the end of the article, I try, when appropriate, to add a "further references" section of books, articles or websites with more information on the subject of that month's article. However, this month I would like to dedicate to giving you a list of resources to which you can have easy access. Moreover, these resources offer a strong foundation in American Indian laws and economic development issues and help everyone better understand what laws affect the Chitimacha people.

American Indian Law in a Nutshell by William C. Canby, ISBN: 0314226370. Although federal Indian law is the most complex body of law in the U.S. legal system, this book by Judge Canby gives scholars and novices alike a good educational and reference work on the multitude of subjects that are covered. I recommend it as a first source for anyone interested in federal Indian law. It is a dense, informative, must-have for anyone going into or interested in American Indian Law, politics, federal law, historical law or American law. Canby presents legal facts with the historical and current American sentiment of the American Indian. Currently in its Third Edition, this book, published by West Wadsworth, can be ordered through bookstores like Barnes & Noble and Books-a-Million and also online at Amazon.com.

The Chitimacha Constitution. Currently, the Chitimacha Tribe is governed by an Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) style constitution with a council as the main governing body. The Chitimacha Constitution of 1971 is available on the web at:
<http://doc.narf.org/nill/Constitutions/chiticonst/chiticonsttoc.htm>.

The Comprehensive Codes of Justice. This is the body of statutory laws that has been enacted by the Tribal Council in 1990 and which governs daily life on the reservation. This Code can also be found on the internet at:
<http://www.narf.org/nill/Codes/chitimachacode/chitimcodetoc.htm>.

The Native American Rights Fund (NARF) website, whose internet address is <http://www.narf.org>, has a very comprehensive website with both extensive resources and links to other documents. Here is a short list of some major areas covered by this website: case updates, a court watch program, a calendar of events, numerous publications and the National American Indian Law Library (NAILL). You can become a member of list-serves which means that you become part of an email mailer that automatically keeps you informed of news, new laws and so on as they happen which affect Indian country.

The National American Indian Law Library, located at <http://www.narf.org/nill/Nillindex.html>, contains many tribal documents from numerous tribal nations, including the Chitimacha. Here, you will find the Chitimacha Constitution and laws. Also, you will find the constitution and laws of many other tribes. It is interesting to see how similar and different these laws are between different Indian nations.

The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, can be located at <http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/hpaied/>. It was founded by Professors Stephen Cornell and Joseph P. Kalt at Harvard University in 1987. The Harvard Project is directed at understanding the conditions under which sustained, self-determined socio-economic development is achieved on American Indian reservations. The Harvard Project's central activities include research and the application of research results in service to Indian Country. Its website includes: research and publications which are easily available online to read or download to print; activities and services; news and events; a list of people and contacts and finally, links to other sites of related interest.

What I hope you take from this article is that there are so many resources for you to further your learning and understanding of American Indian law and Chitimacha laws, that it is probably impossible to name them all here. In fact, I have kept the list of resources in this article to a bare minimum. It keeps the list manageable and prevents it from becoming overwhelming. I think these basic resources cover the broadest range of major issues. Everyone who digs into them will come away with accurate knowledge of the basics and can learn as much about any given issue or area of law as they want. Finally, the websites have links to other sites or resources that will satisfy everyone in terms of the availability of information.

Christopher Mora is a Chitimacha Tribal Member who served on active duty with the Navy JAG Corps from August 1999 – September 2003 as a legal assistance attorney, trial attorney and general counsel to over 30 Navy Commanders and has worked on several legal issues within the area of American Indian law. He is currently completing a Masters Degree at Harvard University and is a US Navy Reservist.

Development Department

Construction Progress Update

As most of you are aware, the sub-surface drainage and roadway reconstruction project for Houma Drive and the older section of Chitimacha Loop Road is underway. This project has been funded by a block grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

In order for the Contractor to complete the project, the existing base material in the roadway needs to be excavated, removed and replaced with a more suitable material to accommodate the vehicular volume and loads. Once the new base material is in place, Hydrated Lime will be incorporated into the soil to improve its characteristics and workability. Once this process is completed, the Contractor will incorporate "Soil Cement" into the material to further improve the characteristics of the soil.

When the hydrated lime is being incorporated into the soil there will be a white cloud around the machinery and persons performing the work. Please refrain from prolonged exposure to this cloud because the lime is a mild skin irritant, as it reacts with the moisture in and on your body.

To minimize the Community Residents inconvenience, the Contractor is going to excavate one side of the roadway at a time. This should allow minimal vehicle access in and out of the area. Once both sides of the roadway have been treated with the lime material, the Contractor will then incorporate the soil cement into the roadway material.

If you have any questions, please call the Tribal Development Department at (337) 923-4000. Thank You.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Kitty @ (337) 923-4973 to place an Ad

VOTER REGISTRATION REMINDER

As a reminder to all Chitimacha Tribal members who are of voting age, elections will be upon us in June of this year. Now is a good time to start thinking about calling in to set up a time for registration if you are not yet registered. Contact numbers are:

Craig Burgess -Home-923-0327
Work-923-4326 or 4973
Cell-339-2991

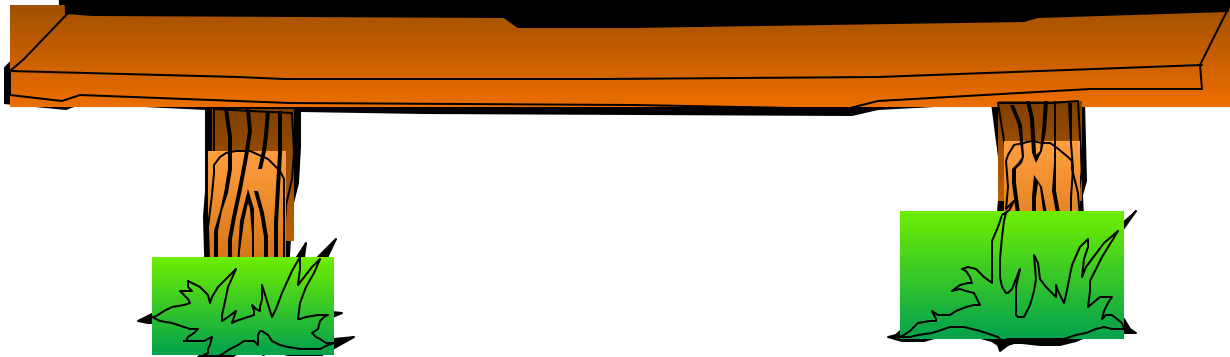
Ondina Savioe -Home-394-3466
Work-365-7361 ext.#23
Cell-224-0436

CHITIMACHA VETERANS' MONUMENT REMINDER

Veterans' DD214 forms (discharge papers) are due by March 31, 2005 to the Cultural Department. Remember, those received after the deadline will be required to pay a \$60.00 charge. If you have any questions, call Kim or Jacob at 337-923-9923.

Please bring forms to the Cultural Department (105 Houma Drive), mail them to P.O. Box 661, Charenton, LA 70523 or fax them to 337-923-6848.

Kimberly S. Walden, M.Ed.
Cultural Director
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523
(337) 923-9923 or 4395
(337) 923-6848 fax
kswalden@chitimacha.gov



CHITIMACHA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA

P.O. BOX 661

CHARENTON, LA 70523